EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATION

I, M. Michael Rounds, do hereby certify as follows:

1. I am the duly elected, qualified and acting Governor of the State of South Dakota (the "State").

2. I have read and understand the covenants, terms and conditions of the Property Donation Agreement Between and Among Homestake Mining Company of California, the State of South Dakota and the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority, with an effective date of April 14, 2006 (the "Agreement").

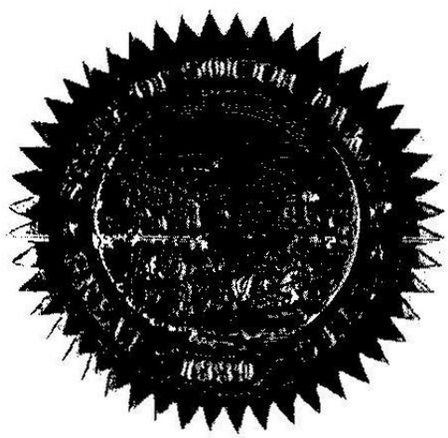
3. All the representations and warranties made or given by the State in the Agreement were true and correct as of the date of the Agreement and remain true and correct as of the date of this Certification.

4. As of the date of this Certification, the State has performed or complied with all the terms, covenants and conditions of the Agreement to be performed or complied with by it to date.

5. Pursuant to the authority vested in me by SDCL 5-24-12 and 5-24-15, I hereby accept, on behalf of the State, the donation of the Assets (as that term is defined in the Agreement) to the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority (the "Authority"). As contemplated by SDCL 1-16H-43, I hereby approve the Authority's acceptance of the donation of the Assets.

6. Pursuant to the authority vested in me by SDCL 5-24-17, I find that the donation provided for by the Agreement was and is for public use or benefit, and I conclude that the agreement to indemnify contained in the Agreement is in the best interests of the State.

Done and executed in duplicate this 12th day of May, 2006.



M. Michael Rounds
Governor

ATTEST:

Chris Nelson
Secretary of State